INTERCOLLEGIATE BROADCASTING SYSTEM

Does Collegiate Radio Really Succeed?

by

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A wired-radio station, operated by students for students, makes many appeals, operates on many levels, and serves to draw together into a working team (or indeed several teams) students with different major interests and from different departments. Thus, on its technical and operational side it appeals to students in physics, electrical engineering, and electronics; on its program side, it must have writers and producers, actors and announcers, commentators and reporters, debaters and students in speech. There are other points of appeal, such as the business side and station management.

The question of continuity of operation from one student generation to the next is sometimes raised. It has been our experience...that in student radio, just as in the glee club, in debate, and in other forms of student group activity, there is always a nucleus ready, eager, and willing to carry on--and able to do so. The attitude of today's student toward radio is definitely not that it is a toy or a gadget; rather it is a tool, to be used for self-expression, for development, and for fun.

Another question that is sometimes raised is that of political control, or political bias. This is a problem that has been met in different ways at different institutions. Generally speaking, I would say that, properly set up, a student station will fairly reflect the "political climate" of the student body. Let them air their views on national and international affairs, on matters of social and economic importance, making sure only that along with the rights and privileges of "freedom of speech" they also observe faithfully the <u>responsibilities</u> of that freedom.